

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/405,176
Filing Date	September 24, 1999
First Named Inventor	HIROYUKI SHINBATA
Group Art Unit	2623
Examiner Name	C. R. Kim
Attorney Docket Number	03500.013853.

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ APR 30 2004
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☒ Other Preliminary Amendment

04/28/2004 SDIRETHI 00000014 09405176

01 FC:1801

02 FC:1203

770.00 DP
290.00 DP

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☒ Other Fee for Multiple Dependent Claimsb. ☒ Checks in the amount of \$ 770.00 and \$290.00 are enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

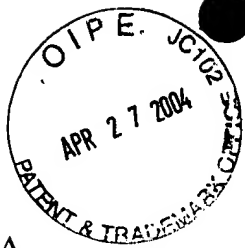
Name (Print/Type)	Leonard P. Diana	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,296
Signature		Date	April 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Leonard P. Diana	Date	April 23, 2004
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



In re Application of:

Docket No. 03500.013853.

HIROYUKI SHINBATA

Application No.: 09/405,176

Examiner: C. R. Kim

Filed: September 24, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2623

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD FOR
SETTING AN EXTRACTION AREA, AND
APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM

Date: April 23, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 30 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	* 14	MINUS	** 21	= 0	x \$9 \$18	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 5	MINUS	*** 9	= 0	x \$43 \$86	\$0.00
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$145°/\$290						\$290.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---						\$290.00

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

☐ Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

☒ A check in the amount of \$ 290.00 is enclosed.

☐ Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the fee for a _____ month extension is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.

☒ Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Diana
Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 28, 286

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